From: Tim Sullivan
To: Microsoft ATR
Date: 1/25/02 12:00pm
Subject: Microsoft Settlement.

Department of Justice,

I want to start out by acknowledging that I am a shareholder in several Tech companies. I own stock directly and indirectly (mutual funds). I own both Microsoft and AOL directly.

I am a firm believer in free enterprise and a fair playing field. I am coming to the conclusion that many of Microsoft's problems seem to be coming from companies that have not been able to compete in the market place and feel that litigation is the answer to their prayers. Let me add that many States seem to fit a subcategory of this group, (Shakedown artists for companies and poor constituents.)

Yesterdays announcement by AOL is a case in point. I am outraged at this ploy. I have been able to use both Netscape and Explorer. I choose to use Explorer.

Microsoft has been a godsend to a non tech like me. I am more productive and able to work my way through most computer related applications. I want as seamless and easy to use programs as possible. I want Microsoft to be able to expand their products as much as possible. I also would like for Microsoft to be able to use the money that they are spending for legal representation to be used for more productive endeavors.

I would like the Justice Departments overview to consider this. Is Microsoft the terrible company that some are saying, or are the 9 states, some companies, and the European Union just using the courts to shakedown Microsoft. If you can't compete in the marketplace you can always go to court. I hope that the review process will quickly and fairly settle this mater.

I find it tragic that I look at the nine states that are holding out for more flesh from Microsoft as being greedy self serving blood suckers. I think many look at Microsoft as they looked at tobacco companies. As an easy mark to get dollars. Shame on them!

Best Regards. Tim Sullivan 8111 Cameron CT SE

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